



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
St Paul District

# Public Notice

**ISSUED:** January 24, 2000

**SECTION:** 404-Clean Water Act

**REFER TO:** GP/LOP-98-MN-MMW

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**ISSUANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GP/LOP-98-MN, SUSPENSION OF ALL  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY SECTION 404 NATIONWIDE PERMITS IN MINNESOTA  
EXCEPT WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF INDIAN RESERVATIONS, AND  
SUSPENSION OF GP-17-MN.**

**1. PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE.**

The purpose of this public notice is to inform the public that the actions described in the heading above will be effective on **January 31, 2000.**

**2. BACKGROUND.**

On July 22, 1998, and February 18, 1999, the St. Paul District issued public notices that described and requested public comment on its proposal (GP/LOP-98-MN) to replace all of the Department of the Army Section 404 nationwide permits (NWPs) in Minnesota, except within the exterior boundaries of Indian Reservations. The Corps Division Engineer, Mississippi Valley Division, has exercised his authority to suspend the Corps Section 404 nationwide permits as proposed by the St. Paul District and GP/LOP-98-MN has been approved. The Section 404 NWPs and GP-17-MN will be suspended and replaced by GP/LOP-98-MN in Minnesota on January 31, 2000. A copy of GP/LOP-98-MN is attached and is also posted on the District's Internet web site at the address below. The St. Paul District's GP/LOP-98 proposals for Wisconsin and Indian Reservations in Minnesota and Wisconsin remain pending.

In summary, GP/LOP-98-MN provides a general permit (GP) authorization for certain minor activities that are authorized without any requirement to apply to or contact the Corps, provided that the activities are conducted in compliance with all GP/LOP-98-MN conditions. GP/LOP-98-MN also provides abbreviated, Section 404 letter-of-permission (LOP) evaluation procedures for almost all other activities that would impact less than two acres of water/wetland area. A matrix summary of GP/LOP-98-MN is included with the attached permit; the permit contains the complete details, descriptions, and conditions of GP/LOP-98-MN.

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

As provided in the "grandfather provision" of the attached GP/LOP-98-MN permit, commenced activities authorized under the Section 404 NWPs prior to January 31, 2000, and activities confirmed before January 31, 2000, in writing by the District to be authorized under the Section 404 NWPs, continue to be authorized under the Section 404 NWPs until January 31, 2002. Permit applications or project notifications concerning activities that are eligible for authorization under a Section 404 NWP will continue to be considered under the Section 404 NWPs until January 31, 2000. Any such applications or notifications that are pending NWP confirmation by the District on that date will be subject to GP/LOP-98-MN. Any GP-17-MN applications that are pending final action by the District on January 31, 2000, will be subject to GP/LOP-98-MN.

GP/LOP-98-MN does not affect any existing or future Department of the Army Section 10 NWPs, or any other regional GPs in Minnesota except GP-17-MN which GP/LOP-98-MN replaces.

Public notices for the District's GP/LOP-98 proposals may be viewed on the District Internet web site at: <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil> under the "Permits" section. As provided by GP/LOP-98-MN, notices of GP/LOP-98-MN permit applications will also be posted on the District web site for public and interagency review. Questions may be submitted through the web site or mailed to: Regulatory Branch, St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers, Army Corps of Engineers Centre, 190 Fifth Street East, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101-1638.

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